

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Vice Chair Connell, on March 16, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Connell, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 338, 3/9/2017; SR 48, 3/9/2017

00:00:18 Vice Chair Connell assumed the role of the chair.

HEARING ON SR 48

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:54 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SR 48, Confirm Governor's appointees to Hard-Rock Mining Impact Board.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:00 Joe Michaletz, Governor's appointee

Opponents' Testimony:

00:04:15 Harold Blattie, executive director, Montana Association of Counties
[EXHIBIT\(ens55a01\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:11:25 Sen. Ankney

HEARING ON SB 338

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:11:55 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 338, Revise laws related to closure of certain coal-fired generation.

00:26:00 Chair Connell

Proponents' Testimony:

00:26:24 John Williams, mayor, City of Colstrip
00:33:09 Rep. Jim Keane, HD 73
00:36:55 Tim Baker, representing Governor Bullock (GOV)
00:37:59 Tom Butler, deputy attorney general, Department of Justice (DOJ)
00:38:38 Fred Wacker, Montana Stockgrowers Association
00:41:18 Chris Cavazos, Montana American Federation of Labor- Congress of Industrial Organizations
00:46:21 Jody Bird Williams, Rosebud County Planning Board
00:49:16 Beth Kaeding, Northern Plains Resource Council
00:54:31 David Galt, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties
00:56:46 Lori Shaw, Colstrip United
00:58:02 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

00:59:36 Bob Gilbert, representing City of Colstrip, City of Glendive, Rosebud County (RC)
 01:01:49 Sen. Malek
 01:01:54 Chair Connell
 01:03:53 Mr. Gilbert, RC
 01:05:22 Chair Connell
 01:05:48 Helen Shaw, self
 01:06:50 Doug Martens, commissioner, Rosebud County
 01:07:37 Jason Rittal, Fallon County
 01:09:19 JD Lynch, Montana State Building and Construction Trades
 01:10:37 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
 01:10:54 Jess LaBuff, business manager, Boilermakers Local #11
 01:11:14 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties
 01:11:40 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers

Opponents' Testimony:

01:12:41 Tom Ebzery, representing Avista Corporation, Portland General Electric, Puget Sound Energy (AC, PGE, PSE)

EXHIBIT(ens55a02)

01:28:03 Diego Rivas, Northwest Energy Coalition (NWECC)
 01:35:40 Chair Connell
 01:36:25 Jon Metropoulos, Talen Energy (TE)
 01:45:30 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association
 01:55:35 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce
 01:58:10 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest (RN)
 02:00:51 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center

Informational Testimony:

02:04:13 Tom Livers, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:04:50 Sen. Blasdel
 02:05:50 Mr. Ebzery, AC, PGE, PSE
 02:10:19 Sen. Barrett
 02:13:44 Mr. Burton, MLCT
 02:14:01 Sen. Barrett
 02:15:41 Mr. Ebzery
 02:17:11 Sen. Barrett
 02:18:04 Mr. Fox, RN
 02:19:00 Sen. Barrett
 02:20:27 Mr. Rivas, NWECC
 02:21:24 Chair Connell
 02:21:35 Sen. Regier
 02:21:51 Sen. Ankney
 02:22:01 Sen. Small
 02:22:28 Mr. Baker, GOV

02:24:46	Sen. Malek
02:25:13	Mr. Baker
02:25:20	Sen. Malek
02:25:30	Sen. McNally
02:26:47	Mr. Metropoulos, TE
02:27:38	Sen. McNally
02:27:56	Sen. Ankney
02:28:38	Sen. Wolken
02:28:59	Mr. Baker
02:30:05	Sen. Wolken
02:30:32	Sen. Ankney
02:31:24	Sen. Kary
02:34:27	Mr. Butler, DOJ
02:34:42	Chair Connell
02:35:50	Mr. Baker
02:36:21	Chair Connell
02:38:07	Mr. Livers, DEQ

Closing by Sponsor:

02:38:41	Sen. Ankney
02:45:28	Chair Connell

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:50 PM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens55aad.pdf](#))